

# Study Skills

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ONLINE HELP...

<http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdyhelp.html>

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## WHEN THE TROUBLE IS MEMORIZING...

*In all probability, nothing is so crucial in the learning process as memory. After all, what benefit could you possibly gain from studying something if you were unable to remember anything about it?*

1. Always study with the intention of remembering. A positive attitude does make a difference.
2. Because the human memory is limited, it is important to work in short study periods separated by periods of rest. (for example, 20 minutes of work, 5 minutes of rest, 20 minutes of work, etc.)
3. Reciting an idea aloud or writing it down transfers the idea from the temporary to the permanent memory.
4. Review, review, review! Every review, no matter how brief, improves memory. Oral reviews are the best.
5. Try to understand material before you commit it to memory. You'll remember it longer that way.
6. Remember the principle of association. Connect what you're trying to remember to **anything** in your life.
7. It's always easier to remember things in groups. Use letters, numbers, or topics. Acronyms (words formed from the first letter of successive words) are particularly useful.

8. When trying to remember a lot of information on a topic, memorize key words only. Then you will be able to string them together when the time comes.
  9. Use flash cards to help you test yourself and to help you review. It's an old device but it works!  
(from: **The Regis Study Skills Guide by Frank Walsh**)  
Or try: <http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdyhelp.html>
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## **WHEN THE TROUBLE IS FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

“There are 5 steps to learning a foreign language:

1. You must learn the meaning of words before you can use them.
2. You must learn something about word order and idioms before you can express an idea.
3. You must learn the various forms a word can take before you can use it in the right person, case, number, etc.
4. You must learn to pronounce the word in order to express what you have learned in the preceding steps.
5. You must learn to think in the language.

The 4 parts of language learning are:

1. Listening
  - Listen for sound and meaning
  - Listen with the aim of reproducing new sounds
2. Speaking
  - Do not substitute speed for accuracy
  - Practice consistency – learning a language is like learning any sport or skill
3. Reading
  - Try to read the material once all the way through without translating
  - Always read aloud when possible
4. Writing
  - Study vocabulary carefully before you begin
  - Keep your attention on spelling, form, and word order
  - Neatness counts

Aids to vocabulary study:

- Master the vocabulary that accompanies each lesson
- Pronounce each new word aloud and be sure to learn to spell it
- Use flash cards, word lists, a special notebook, etc.
- Play word games with your new vocabulary such as Scrabble, crossword puzzles, jumbles, etc.”

From: Study Is Hard Work by William H. Armstrong (371.3 in our school library) or try:

<http://nd.edu/~archives/latgramm.htm>

[http://spanish.about.com/cs/forbeginners/a/beg\\_lessons.htm](http://spanish.about.com/cs/forbeginners/a/beg_lessons.htm)

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**WHEN THE TROUBLE IS**